

Sirs:

I am alarmed to find that the NAB wishes to stifle the development of satellite radio by attempting to prevent satellite carriers from broadcasting local news and weather information. I can see no reason for this action other than to protect the monopoly that broadcast stations currently hold in this area. I have been a radio listener from childhood, and I appreciate the role broadcast stations play in providing information to our local communities, as well as arts programming and public service announcements of all kinds. Recently however I have become dismayed at the relentless consolidation of local stations into huge nationwide conglomerates; to my mind, this does not serve the public interest. We need more competition and alternative sources of local information, not fewer ones. Restricting satellite radio's ability to offer these services, and compete in this way, is counter-productive, unnecessary and contrary to the spirit of radio acting in the public interest. I urge you to let satellite radio provide local information of all kinds, including traffic and weather updates. Broadcast stations do not need protection in this matter; they only wish to keep a monopoly they should not have in the first place.

Regards,

Greg Oliva